

the Bullet

Volume 81, No. 6

Serving the Mary Washington Community since 1922.

October 11, 2007

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Fredericksburg
Forum



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Weekend Weather

Friday

Mostly Sunny
High: 68
Low: 42

Saturday

Sunny

High: 69
Low: 45

Sunday

Sunny

High: 72
Low: 45

Deck to be Rebuilt

By SAMUEL CHANG
Staff Writer

University of Mary Washington officials have closed the Eagle's Nest deck indefinitely due to fire safety and structural concerns, leaving students with few outside dining options.

General manager of Dining Services, John Dering says some students have started eating their meals in the Campus Center hallways, while others are sitting outside at the 14 tables recently installed in the Woodard Center Plaza.

Junior Emma Clarkson hiked over to Simpson Library recently to eat her lunch on a frayed bench bolted to the brick walkway.

"It sucks eating on benches," she said. "I would normally be eating on the deck on a day like this."

College officials have allocated \$400,000 for a new deck, and say they hope to begin construction in the spring. The State Fire Marshal's Office or-

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Spirit Rock v2.0



University of Mary Washington students have found a more noticeable advertising space than the campus' traditional spirit rock, painting club messages and event postings on the wooden fence in front of Lee Hall.

"Instead of fighting over the spirit

rock, we can have 20 different groups posting at once," said UMW Spirit Committee member Jessica Turner.

Last night alone, 10 on-campus organizations covered the length of the barrier with a Homecoming calendar of events, advertisements for

sports tournaments, personal messages about "coming out" for National Coming Out Day and club meetings.

"It's an homage to diversity," said president of PRISM and executive chair of DUCC Anthony DiRenzo.

UMW Says No to HPV Shot

Admins. Deem Vaccine too Costly

By KIM PERNICE
Staff Writer

A number of Virginia schools administer the HPV vaccine on their campuses, but once again this year the University of Mary Washington will not be one of them.

UMW women will also find birth control more difficult to obtain as the school has raised the cost of oral contraceptives by 300 percent.

In June 2006, the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of Gardasil, a vaccine that protects young women from HPV, a virus that causes cervical cancer and genital warts.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that all young women between the ages of 9 and 26 be vaccinated.

Dr. Paul Thomas Riley, who became the campus physician full-time last February, says he will continue to write prescriptions for female students to receive the vaccine at area pharmacies.

"It is hard to consider bringing the vaccine on campus because it is so expensive," he said.

Female students will also face an increase in the cost of women's care on campus this year. The price of oral contraceptives rose from \$3 for one month's supply last year to \$12 for one month's supply this year.

Even though the cost of oral contraceptives has increased sharply, the cost on campus still remains considerably lower than the retail price at pharmacies.

In addition, the school has raised the cost of women's health examinations, which include a breast exam, pelvic exam and Pap test from \$45 last year to \$55 this year, an increase of 22 percent.

A number of other campuses around Virginia, such as Christopher Newport University and the University of Mary Washington both offer Gardasil to their female students on campus.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 50 percent of women diagnosed with Human Papillomavirus are within 20 and 24 years of age, an age group that overwhelmingly represents college students.

According to Riley, the cost of the HPV vaccine is about \$120 per shot

for 3 shots at a \$360 total. Riley says the health center does not have the money in its budget to support bringing the vaccine on campus.

Riley says he encourages any female student interested in receiving the vaccine to make an appointment with the health center where they will be given a prescription for the vaccine along with a list of local pharmacies that will administer it—a list that does not include the nearby Giant or CVS, where pharmacists confirmed they do not carry the vaccine.

Students, especially those from out-of-state, say they feel that the vaccine should be made available on campus.

Junior Amanda Taub of Long Island has received all three shots of the vaccine but admits that it was difficult to plan her appointments around school.

"Since you have to get the shot in specific increments I planned when I would get it around school breaks," she said. "I got the shots from my doctor at home so I had to make sure I could come home for each shot. It would have been more convenient to have it on campus or at least in the area because I am here more than I am at home."

One thing UMW does offer female students, but that is not available at some other schools including Christopher Newport University and Longwood University is the so-called "morning-after pill." Plan B.

Despite its availability at local drug stores, Riley believes that it is the responsibility of the health center to continue to provide that option to students.

Over-the-counter, Plan B costs \$46.99 at Giant and \$44.99 at CVS, but only \$25 on campus.

Linda Timmes Ross, the health center's nurse practitioner and director of women's health services, urges that a student get emergency contraception as soon as possible, wherever that may be, since the effectiveness of Plan B decreases the longer you wait to take it.

For more information call
the health center at
(540) 654-1040.

Prof. Begins Fellowship

By PHIL WHITE
Staff Writer

Out of a pool of 50 applicants, only eight were selected to receive the prestigious Jennings Randolph Fellowship from the United States Institute of Peace this year.

UMW history professor Nabil al-Tikriti was one of them.

The D.C.-based fellowship has allowed him to take time off from his teaching this semester to study ethnic conflict and population displacement in Iraq.

"I had known about the fellowship for many years and it's a great opportunity to engage in policy debates in Washington about Iraq," al-Tikriti said.

The United States Institute of Peace is "an independent, nonpartisan, national institution established and funded by Congress," according to its website. Its purpose is to promote the prevention and resolution of violent conflict around



Courtesy of University Relations

the world.

In his fellowship application, al-Tikriti said that his research goal is to trace the history of ethnic conflict and

► See FELLOWSHIP, page 2

More Offices On The Move

By GRACIE HART
Staff Writer

Last year the University of Mary Washington spent approximately \$190,000 to rent office space a mile off campus at the intersection of Rt. 1 and Rt. 3.

This year that figure has jumped to a quarter of a million dollars as the school has taken on additional space to house a number of offices, including Publications, Purchasing, Accounts Payable, Auditing, and Information Technology.

"The landlord had contacted us when space adjacent to the space that we already had became available," said Vice President for Business and Finance Richard Pearce. "We knew that we were going to need the extra space to accommodate for the upcoming

renovation projects so it just made sense to take it."

The school acquired 2,406 additional sq. ft. at \$58,236 per year, giving the University a total of 10,823 sq. ft. of space at Centre Court for a total of \$248,929 per year. The rental agreement is for five years.

"The rental is being paid for out of the operating budget with part of it also being paid for out of the Lee Hall renovation budget so the money is coming from a mixture [of places]," said Pearce.

"We spent about \$37,000 renovating the space putting up walls, offices, sprinkler systems, cubicles, etc. We also purchased furniture for the space."

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Weekly Events

Today—S.E.E.D.'s 3rd Annual Cross-Cultural BBQ



Free food from off-campus vendors and performances by Invoice, UMW Breakers, and more.
4-6 p.m., Ball Circle

Oct. 11 is National



Coming Out Day.

Public Lecture by Univ. of Houston Professor



Today, 5 p.m. in Trinkle 204. Lois Parkinson Zamora lectures on *The Baroque Self: Gabriel Garcia-Marquez & Frida Kahlo*. For info contact tkennedy@umw.edu

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Police Beat

By KATY BURNELL
News Editor



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Deck Lives Again

◀ DECK, page 1

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Timothy Ritchey, the Fire Protection Engineer in charge of the inspection, ordered the school to correct the exit problem, and also directed the University to investigate the structural capacity of the deck.

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According to John Wittenmuth, associate vice president of Facilities Services, the school had been allowing twice as many people to occupy the deck than the state code allows for a residential structure.

Although the deck failed to meet state requirements, it was never structurally unsafe in the past, according to school officials.

"Nothing changed with the structural integrity of the deck since it was built," said Ruth Lovelace, compliance manager from the UMW Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

"It has never, not now nor ever, been unsafe," she said.

School officials said they don't know why the 22-year-old deck was built to meet residential and not commercial standards.

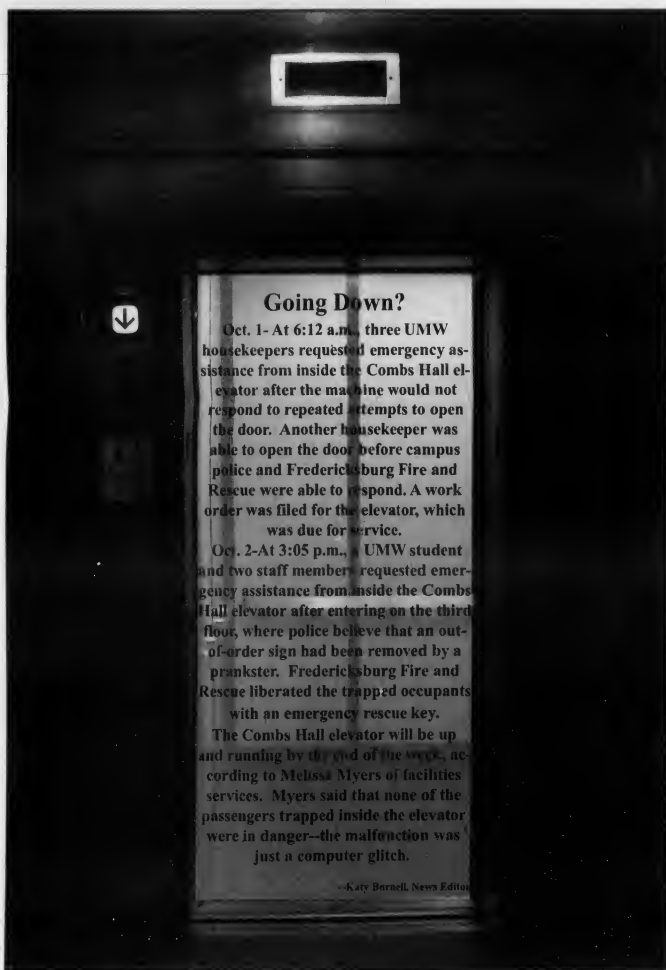
"It's a mystery question," said Wittenmuth. "It probably was just an error or accident. The state had different standards back then."

No one currently employed in Facilities Services held a supervisory position when the deck was initially constructed.

Richard Pearce, associate vice president for Business and Finance, said the UMW Board of Visitors recently approved \$400,000 to remove, replace, and enlarge the deck. That project is currently in the design phase. Preliminary plans call for the deck to connect to both the Eagle's Nest and to Campus Walk between the Woodard Plaza and the library.

The Eagle's Nest's business has not been hurt by the closure of the deck, according to Dering, the general manager.

"But I did see that kids were eating in the [Woodard Campus Center] hallways," he said. "I knew it was an inconvenience for the students, not having the deck. That's why we bought the furniture out front."



Justin Toney-Bullet

Prof. Focuses on Iraq

◀ FELLOWSHIP, page 1

population displacement in twentieth-century Iraq, and to "attempt to construct a model of the common dynamics of these phenomena."

Al-Tikriti contends that ethnic conflict and population displacement tend to cause more ethnic conflict and population displacement. He also notes that since 2003, the massive population displacement in Iraq has affected the number of professionals able to remain in that war-torn country.

"The loss of such doctors, professors, scientists, and other professional actors will limit the potentiality of societal development until the trend is reversed," he said.

Al-Tikriti says that he will be traveling to Washington two to three days a week for the duration of the fellowship.

So far, he has mostly been involved in introductory work. "It's a bit like a professional counterpart to freshmen orientation," said al-Tikriti.

He will be taking two trips to Iraq, where he will interview government officials and refugees to further his research.

At the conclusion of his fellowship, al-Tikriti will write two reports about his research; one will concentrate on population losses occurring specifically in Iraq after 2003, while the other will address the historical background and general nature of population displacement in Iraq and surrounding countries. He says both reports will address displaced populations currently living in Iraq, and refugees outside of Iraq.

"They're refugees because of a war we started," says al-Tikriti, who called the U.S.-led war in the region "a disaster," and noted that more than 2.5 mil-

lion Iraqis have been displaced as a result of the war.

"I would hope that U.S. policy vis-a-vis Iraq might change," he said. "One specific policy is the amount of asylum seekers that are admitted to Iraq each year. In four years, 1,300 people [out of 2.5 million] have reached safety. That's a policy I'd like to see change."

al-Tikriti began his academic career as an Ottoman historian, but says that since 2003, "most of my work has been directed towards today's Iraq."

"I wanted to be involved in the debates about policy, because a policy made in Washington has effects on people halfway around the world, which I have seen," he said. "I wanted to engage in the creation of policy from here on out."

Al-Tikriti will resume his instruction of classes next fall.

Viewpoints

Staff Editorial

Something happened on campus last Friday that was so extraordinary we almost thought we had been transported to another dimension, or at least to another college.

You showed up.

After a week of midterm stress and paper angst, almost 1,000 of us stared down the barrel of our Friday night and decided on Rocktoberfest, an event sponsored by our fellow students. Those of us who decided to break with tradition and support a student-organization deserve a pat on the back. But a Colbert-style "wag of the finger" goes out to everyone who routinely skips out on campus events.

We can't imagine why our student body routinely chooses not to show up for things that our friends and classmates spend so much time planning and organizing. Moreover, we can not understand why the ones who complain the loudest about 'Dead Fred' are usually the least likely to participate in the dozens of activities happening at any given time all over campus.

We may not understand this lack of school spirit, but we do know who the serial no-showers are.

And you know who you are. So do your friends—the same ten friends that you have had since freshman year. The kids from your hall that you bonded with over those awkward first meals at Seacobeck who now form the social circle that you're caught up in are limiting your college experience. Don't get us wrong, there's nothing wrong with your friends, but there's something wrong with you if you think you have to do everything with them.

Some of you who sing along to "Hey There Delilah" in the shower were probably too embarrassed to suggest the Plain White T's show to your elitist pals. It's ok, we understand. No one likes feeling time-warped back to those middle school days when one lousy joke or poor fashion choice made you the

subject of ridicule. Your friends might not be able to relate though. We hear they've never had an awkward phase.

Peer pressure is not the only thing that keeps us from coming to campus events.

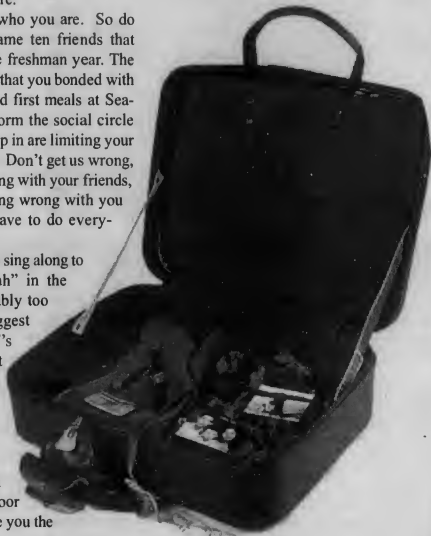
We're willing to bet that some people missed Rocktoberfest for a "Scrubs" marathon or a Halo 3 showdown. Maybe you just couldn't tear yourself away from that YouTube video of Korean inmates dancing en masse to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

Sheep, boob-tube addicts and gamers: consider yourselves rebuked. But you aren't the only culprits to blame for low turnout at student events.

We've saved the worst for last: the weakender (no, that's not a typo).

Again, we know who you are, and so do you. You're probably in-state, from northern Virginia, and you treat your dorm-room like it's a time share—the weekends belong to your roommate.

Take your trigger-finger off the gear-shifter and step out of the vehicle. Were you listening during your pre-admission tour, or did your Washington guide forget to tell you? This is not a suitcase school.



'Bullet' Miss

BY CHELSEA SEACHORD
Guest Columnist

The following letter was written in response to a misquoted statement from "Survey Says" (The Bulletin, Oct. 4, 2007):

I was recently contacted by my former advisor, with whom I have kept in touch since graduation, and he informed me of a recent article about UMW's disapproval ratings ("Survey Says..." Oct. 4).

He explained that he was concerned about a rather prominent quote of mine, as it did not sound like anything I would say. He mailed me the paper and I saw that I had not, in fact, said anything of the sort.

I was (mis)quoted, in large print, in the middle of the front page of the paper, as saying "If I had known how unhappy I'd be, I would have transferred."

I was utterly appalled. Inside the article I found the full quote, including the bit that had been re-quoted on the front, but written as "If I had known how unhappy I'd be, would I have transferred? Maybe."

This may seem like nothing to the average reader, but there are a number of things I'd like to point out, beginning with the least significant:

First of all, the larger of the two quotes was inaccurate and much more seditious, implying that my sentiments were firm and decided, whereas the inside quote left room for improvement, so to speak.

Second of all, the improper punctuation left much to be desired and actually alters the readers' perception of the quote. This, however, can be passed off as a typo and is admittedly insignificant.

The heart of my complaint, however, lies with the reporter and the lack of journalistic ethics. I am not a journalist myself, but even as a mathematical analyst I know that Facebook (the source of the quote) is far from a reliable journalistic source.

I think the readers would agree that things said on Facebook are often spontaneous and not very well thought out. According to my quote, I had written those words two weeks before graduation on a Facebook group devoted to griping about my soon-to-be Alma Mater. I don't think I'm alone in the group of people who have seen or heard or experienced something infuriating and gone straight to a public, but informal, forum to vent our frustrations.

At the time of my writing, if any non-freshman may remember, our school was undergoing many administrative changes, including the unfortunate incidents surrounding our latest elected president's un-

timely departure, not to mention various personal conflicts. Suffice it to say that it was a rant, nothing more, and as such was made in the heat of anger. If anyone had asked me about it, I would have made that point clear and supplemented the inquirer with a more accurate, honest, and objective quote.

This brings me to my next and final point. My rant was quoted completely and utterly without permission.

To be perfectly honest, to this day I do not even remember writing anything of the sort, and before serious consideration I would have completely denied writing it.

It was not until I thoroughly dug into my memory that I remembered being upset enough to write anything on Facebook, and if I had been questioned by anyone, especially anyone on the *Bullet* staff, I would not have permitted such a use of my quote, especially in large print on the cover.

This afternoon I went onto Facebook for the first time in at least two months and found a note by the author of the article in question. In the note the author asked permission to use my quote, but since I had not been on Facebook in so long I did not read the note at all, much less respond.

I can only assume that the author grew frustrated with my lack of response and decided to use the quote anyway, possibly assuming that my disappearance indicated my lack of interest in my Alma Mater and any goings-on therewithin.

Unfortunately for the author, this was not the case and her lack of stronger journalistic ethics has finally brought trouble. Hence this letter.

If any student considers their college career, they would find numerous times at which they were upset with their school for one reason or another.

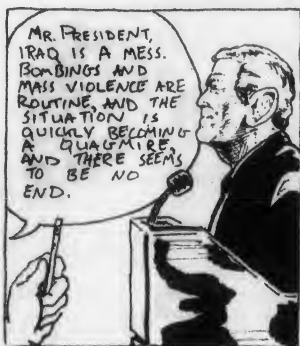
During the last few weeks of college some students cling to their school while others distance themselves. I was of the former category and have since rediscovered my love for my Alma Mater. I have become a recruiter for UMW, in fact, and have developed more school spirit than I have ever had before.

Officially and for the record—so please feel free to quote me on this—I love this school and I am extremely glad that, despite the bumps in my four-year road, I did not transfer. I stuck it out and I came out a better person for it, both academically and socially.

I would not change a single thing about the last four years of my life. End quote.

Chelsea Seachord graduated from UMW in 2007.

After reviewing the inaccuracies in the Oct. 4 article "Survey Says" identified by contributing author Chelsea Seachord, we at the *Bullet* feel compelled to issue a clarification. Statements made on the social utility Facebook constitute public domain, and are therefore legally eligible for publication. *Bullet* author Kat Saunders did not misquote Miss Seachord, however, an editorial error occurred in the transcription of Miss Seachord's words. We apologize for any harm done to Miss Seachord, however unintentional it may have been.



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the
Bullet

Serving the University of
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The *Bullet* is published on Thursday afternoons during the fall and spring semesters. All decisions are made by the editorial board, independent of *The Bulletin* adviser.

Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to *The Bulletin* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail address at bullet@umw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact *The Bulletin* at 540-654-1133.

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◀ DECK, page 1

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"But I did see that kids were eating in the [Woodard Campus Center] hallways," he said. "I knew it was an inconvenience for the students, not having the deck. That's why we bought the furniture out from."

Going Down?

Oct. 1- At 6:12 a.m., three UMW housekeepers requested emergency assistance from inside the Combs Hall elevator after the machine would not respond to repeated attempts to open the door. Another housekeeper was able to open the door before campus police and Fredericksburg Fire and Rescue were able to respond. A work order was filed for the elevator, which was due for service.

Oct. 2- At 3:05 p.m., a UMW student and two staff members requested emergency assistance from inside the Combs Hall elevator after entering on the third floor, where police believe that an out-of-order sign had been removed by a prankster. Fredericksburg Fire and Rescue liberated the trapped occupants with an emergency rescue key.

The Combs Hall elevator will be up and running by the end of the week, according to Melissa Myers of facilities services. Myers said that none of the passengers trapped inside the elevator were in danger—the malfunction was just a computer glitch.

—Katy Burnell, News Editor

Prof. Focuses on Iraq

◀ FELLOWSHIP, page 1

population displacement in twentieth-century Iraq, and to "attempt to construct a model of the common dynamics of these phenomena."

Al-Tikriti contends that ethnic conflict and population displacement tend to cause more ethnic conflict and population displacement. He also notes that since 2003, the massive population displacement in Iraq has affected the number of professionals able to remain in that war-torn country.

"The loss of such doctors, professors, scientists, and other professional actors will limit the potentiality of societal development until the trend is reversed," he said.

Al-Tikriti says that he will be traveling to Washington two to three days a week for the duration of the fellowship.

So far, he has mostly been involved in introductory work. "It's a bit like a professional counterpart to freshmen orientation," said Al-Tikriti.

He will be taking two trips to Iraq, where he will interview government officials and refugees to further his research.

At the conclusion of his fellowship, Al-Tikriti will write two reports about his research: one will concentrate on population losses occurring specifically in Iraq after 2003, while the other will address the historical background and general nature of population displacement in Iraq and surrounding countries. He says both reports will address displaced populations currently living in Iraq, and refugees outside of Iraq.

"They're refugees because of a war we started," says Al-Tikriti, who called the U.S.-led war in the region "a disaster," and noted that more than 2.5 mil-

lion Iraqis have been displaced as a result of the war.

"I would hope that U.S. policy vis-a-vis Iraq might change," he said. "One specific policy is the amount of asylum seekers that are admitted to Iraq each year. In four years, 1,300 people [out of 2.5 million] have reached safety. That's a policy I'd like to see change."

Al-Tikriti began his academic career as an Ottoman historian, but says that since 2003, "most of my work has been directed towards today's Iraq."

"I wanted to be involved in the debates about policy, because a policy made in Washington has effects on people halfway around the world, which I have seen," he said. "I wanted to engage in the creation of policy from here on out."

Al-Tikriti will resume his instruction of classes next fall.

Justin Toney/Bullet

Viewpoints

Staff Editorial

Something happened on campus last Friday that was so extraordinary we almost thought we had been transported to another dimension, or at least to another college.

You showed up.

After a week of midterm stress and paper angst, almost 1,000 of us stared down the barrel of our Friday night and decided on Rocktoberfest, an event sponsored by our fellow students. Those of us who decided to break with tradition and support a student-organization deserve a pat on the back. But a Colbert-style "wag of the finger" goes out to everyone who routinely skips out on campus events.

We can't imagine why our student body routinely chooses not to show up for things that our friends and classmates spend so much time planning and organizing. Moreover, we can not understand why the ones who complain the loudest about 'Dead Fred' are usually the least likely to participate in the dozens of activities happening at any given time all over campus.

We may not understand this lack of school spirit, but we do know who the serial no-showers are.

And you know who you are. So do your friends—the same ten friends that you have had since freshman year. The kids from your hall that you bonded with over those awkward first meals at Seacobeck who now form the social circle that you're caught up in are limiting your college experience. Don't get us wrong, there's nothing wrong with your friends, but there's something wrong with you if you think you have to do everything with them.

Some of you who sing along to "Hey There Delilah" in the shower were probably too embarrassed to suggest the Plain White T's show to your elitist pals. It's ok, we understand. No one likes feeling time-warped back to those middle school days when one lousy joke or poor fashion choice made you the

subject of ridicule. Your friends might not be able to relate though. We hear they've never had an awkward phase.

Peer pressure is not the only thing that keeps us from coming to campus events.

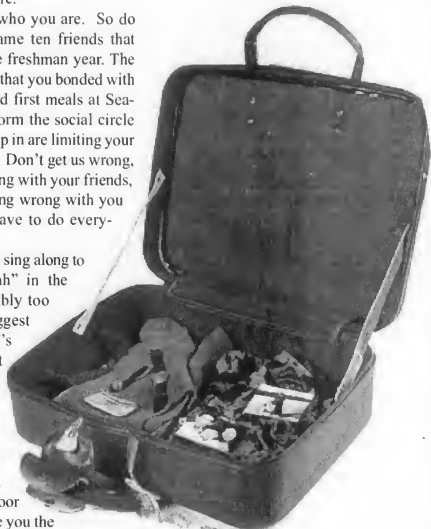
We're willing to bet that some people missed Rocktoberfest for a "Scrubs" marathon or a Halo 3 showdown. Maybe you just couldn't tear yourself away from that YouTube video of Korean inmates dancing en masse to Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

Sheep, boob-tube addicts and gamers: consider yourselves rebuked. But you aren't the only culprits to blame for low turnout at student events.

We've saved the worst for last: the weakender (no, that's not a typo).

Again, we know who you are, and so do you. You're probably in-state, from northern Virginia, and you treat your dorm-room like it's a time share—the weekends belong to your roommate.

Take your trigger-finger off the gear-shifter and step out of the vehicle. Were you listening during your pre-admission tour, or did your Washington guide forget to tell you? This is not a suitcase school.



'Bullet' Miss

BY CHELSEA SEACHORD
Guest Columnist

The following letter was written in response to a misquoted statement from "Survey Says" (The Bulletin, Oct. 4, 2007):

I was recently contacted by my former advisor, with whom I have kept in touch since graduation, and he informed me of a recent article about UMW's disapproval ratings ("Survey Says..." Oct. 4).

He explained that he was concerned about a rather prominent quote of mine, as it did not sound like anything I would say. He mailed me the paper and I saw that I had not, in fact, said anything of the sort.

I was (mis)quoted, in large print, in the middle of the front page of the paper, as saying "If I had known how unhappy I'd be, I would have transferred."

I was utterly appalled. Inside the article I found the full quote, including the bit that had been re-quoted on the front, but written as "If I had known how unhappy I'd be, would I have transferred? Maybe."

This may seem like nothing to the average reader, but there are a number of things I'd like to point out, beginning with the least significant.

First of all, the larger of the two quotes was inaccurate and much more seditious, implying that my sentiments were firm and decided, whereas the inside quote left room for improvement, so to speak.

Second of all, the improper punctuation left much to be desired and actually alters the readers' perception of the quote. This, however, can be passed off as a typo and is admittedly insignificant.

The heart of my complaint, however, lies with the reporter and the lack of journalistic ethics. I am not a journalist myself, but even as a mathematical analyst I know that Facebook (the source of the quote) is far from a reliable journalistic source.

I think the readers would agree that things said on Facebook are often spontaneous and not very well thought out. According to my quote, I had written those words two weeks before graduation on a Facebook group devoted to griping about my soon-to-be Alma Mater. I don't think I'm alone in the group of people who have seen or heard or experienced something infuriating and gone straight to a public, but informal, forum to vent our frustrations.

At the time of my writing, if any non-freshman may remember, our school was undergoing many administrative changes, including the unfortunate incidents surrounding our latest elected president's un-

timely departure, not to mention various personal conflicts. Suffice it to say that it was a rant, nothing more, and as such was made in the heat of anger. If anyone had asked me about it, I would have made that point clear and supplemented the inquirer with a more accurate, honest, and objective quote.

This brings me to my next and final point. My rant was quoted completely and utterly without permission.

To be perfectly honest, to this day I do not even remember writing anything of the sort, and before serious consideration I would have completely denied writing it.

It was not until I thoroughly dug into my memory that I remembered being upset enough to write anything on Facebook, and if I had been questioned by anyone, especially anyone on the *Bullet* staff, I would not have permitted such a use of my quote, especially in large print on the cover.

This afternoon I went onto Facebook for the first time in at least two months and found a note by the author of the article in question. In the note the author asked permission to use my quote, but since I had not been on Facebook in so long I did not read the note at all, much less respond.

I can only assume that the author grew frustrated with my lack of response and decided to use the quote anyway, possibly assuming that my disappearance indicated my lack of interest in my Alma Mater and any goings-on therein.

Unfortunately for the author, this was not the case and her lack of stronger journalistic ethics has finally brought trouble. Hence this letter.

If any student considers their college career, they would find numerous times at which they were upset with their school for one reason or another.

During the last few weeks of college some students cling to their school while others distance themselves. I was of the former category and have since rediscovered my love for my Alma Mater. I have become a recruiter for UMW, in fact, and have developed more school spirit than I have ever had before.

Officially and for the record—so please feel free to quote me on this—I love this school and I am extremely glad that, despite the bumps in my four-year road, I did not transfer. I stuck it out and I came out a better person for it, both academically and socially.

I would not change a single thing about the last four years of my life. End quote.

Chelsea Seachord graduated from UMW in 2007.

After reviewing the inaccuracies in the Oct. 4 article "Survey Says" identified by contributing author Chelsea Seachord, we at the *Bullet* feel compelled to issue a clarification. Statements made on the social utility Facebook constitute public domain, and are therefore legally eligible for publication. *Bullet* author Kat Saunders did not misquote Miss Seachord, however, an editorial error occurred in the transcription of Miss Seachord's words. We apologize for any harm done to Miss Seachord, however unintentional it may have been.



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Bullet

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to *The Bulletin* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail address at bullet@umw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact *The Bulletin* at 540-654-1133.

Viewpoints

Sexclamations

By Kelsey Clark, Staff Writer

Last week I extolled the virtues of talking openly about sex. Being comfortable with your sexuality and sharing experiences can only im-

prove things, right?

Wrong. This weekend I was shopping with my mother and we passed a window boldly displaying a pair of women's underwear that read: "it's not going to lick itself."



Asking for what you want is certainly a good way to satisfy your needs. Making your panties ask for you? Maybe not so much. I limit the text on my underwear to the days of the week, so I couldn't honestly say what kind of results that would yield.

If you do want your undies to do the talking, fine. It's not the message or the delivery that bother me so much as long as you're revealing your request in a private situation. On a public street in front of my mother? Yikes. Inappropriate.

Goodness knows I don't generally have a problem with flagrant public displays of sexuality, or with discussing sex openly with my peers. But factor Mom into the equation and sex makes me as uncomfortable as a 5th grader in health class.

My mother is a seasoned guidance counselor and is therefore trained in talking about uncomfortable topics and asking personal, intimate

questions. I knew she would see the lascivious lingerie and use it as an opportunity to start prying into my own steamy shenanigans.

If I followed my own advice, I would open up and spew forth a titillating torrent of anecdotes, questions, and other superfluous sexual drivel. My presence is proof that Mommy is no stranger to sex, and she's got years of experience I could learn from. She would probably be the perfect person to talk temptation with. And apparently, I am all about talking. If it can help Wilma Flintstone have a more bedrockin' sex life, why not go for it?

Because it would be humiliating, that's why. I don't know why it is I can comfortably talk about such salacious subjects with anyone my

own age but found myself praying that the pornographic panties escaped my mother's attention and we could avoid talking about sex for as long as humanly possible. Perhaps some psych major would be kind enough to explain that to me.

The point is,

not everyone can be at ease talking sex all the time. So while I stand by my previous statement that being comfortable discussing sex and being vocal in bed are positive, I will admit that you don't have to be so forthcoming with everyone you meet.

Even if you're not going to chitchat about copulation with your parents on a public street, try to be open with someone else you're comfortable talking to.

If you're too shy to say it out loud, you can just write it on your underwear.

“
...factor Mom into the equation and sex makes me as uncomfortable as a 5th grader in health class.”

”

Susannigans

Whoah There, Delilah

By Susannah Clark, Viewpoints Editor

The Plain White T's predictable penultimate number last Friday was of course, "Hey There Delilah." Dodd Auditorium became a sea of illuminated cell-phones in mid-call as the sing-along erupted. As the obligatory PDA-fest began to swell among near-by couples, not only did my usual bitterness strike me, but a strong sense of poetic irony as well.

Second only to Rihanna's "Umbrella"—which was ironically covered by Ill Scarlett, the opening act to the Plain White T's last Friday, "Hey There Delilah" was, without question, the song of the summer. The song was repeated over and over on every mainstream radio station more times than the "Empire Today" jingle. After reaching number one on iTunes, every last cutesy couple in my social circle deemed the ballad as "their song."

With lyrics like "Times Square can't shine as bright as you," the song is clearly no literary masterpiece. But the simplicity and humility of the melody is hard to detest. "Hey There Delilah" is a good-old fashioned, unpretentious love song—a lost art in today's sounds of gangster rap and emo cryfests.

This doesn't mean I don't want to rip my ears out when I realize I can't get the damn tune out of my head.

What makes the raging cynic in me smirk is the literary and Biblical significance of the song's namesake. Delilah is the Book of Judges star villainess—the personification of betrayal as she cuts Samson's blessed hair. Delilah embodies the Eve-inspired tempting

and deceitful archetype that women have been burdened with for centuries. The tale has inspired many masterpieces of art and literature. Countless musicians, including world-smiths Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen, have penned the allusion of Samson and Delilah in their song lyrics.

Perhaps the composer of "Hey There Delilah" is winking and nodding to this biblical reference as well. The lead singer of the Plain White T's has fallen as hard as Samson, and we can only infer that the B-side to "Hey There Delilah" will be a rocking rant of heartbroken revenge. Sucker.

After Googling more tidbits about the song, my cynical hopes are crushed as I read an interview from People magazine with the real Delilah—the overachieving co-ed "Hey There Delilah" was written about. My analysis is defunct: Delilah is not a powerful literary allusion, but rather a girl with a musical sounding-three syllable name, who happened to catch the eye of a future pop-star. The People magazine article also mentions that despite being a real person, Delilah never actually dated the musician who wrote such an intense song for her. Are there any bible stories about stalking?

Most of today's popular song lyrics are about as shallow and straight-forward as the tweens who post them in their AIM profiles. I blame my Literary Theory class for making me try to think otherwise.

"Hey There Delilah" is nothing but a love song; there is no deeper meaning, and I'm still single.



Sex Column Reinforces Double Standard

BY SYLVIA SIERRA
Guest Columnist

The following letter is a response to "Sexclamations" (The Bulletin, Sept. 27, 2007):

By now, I think it's safe to say that everyone knows that "Sexclamations" is the worst part of the Bulletin. It has proved repeatedly to be gossipy, sexist, and offensive, and has never provided useful information or well-thought out opinions about sex.

In the Sept. 27 "Sexclamations" article, writer Kelsey Clark not only distastefully criticized men's choices to shave their balls, but she made hypocritical and unexamined statements about body hair in general, which myself and many others have agreed is quite offensive.

In reference to the fact that women shaving their body hair is seen as normal and necessary in our society while men shaving their body hair is seen as unnecessary and "unnatural," Clark wrote, "I know that, in the name of feminism and equality, I should be opposed to double standards like this, but quite frankly I support this one."

While Clark is certainly entitled to her opinion and is allowed to admit to being hypocritical and unexamined in her views, her next statements which are supposed to explain her stance are just offensive and untrue.

Clark's assertion that "hair is masculine, normal and reassuring" is nothing but a socially-constructed sexist stereotype. Everyone adult, male and female, has body hair. Saying that hair is "masculine" would mean that all women develop this masculine trait during puberty...and that the only solution is to shave it all off? I don't think so.

Grown women have body hair, just like men, and I find it ridiculous that considering how little body hair women usually have compared to men, women are made to feel that this natural part of their body is "unnatural" and disgusting for some reason. The whole argument just doesn't make any sense and is oppressive to women in several ways.

First of all, telling all women they must shave their body hair off is basically telling them that there is something fundamentally wrong with all women's bodies. Does that sound fair?

Secondly, I believe that the obsession in our culture with hairless women is disturbing considering the fact that only little girls are naturally hairless. I see the attempt to make all grown women hairless not only as disturbing sexually, but also oppressive. It is just another way to keep women from ever really growing up and being comfortable with their bodies. Basically, the idea that women need to constantly remove their body hair is just another example of how our society puts such an emphasis on women's physical appearance, distracting women and men from the fact that women are actually human beings and are more than just a body.

Basically, no one should be pressured one way or the other about what to do with their body hair. It is a personal choice that people should be allowed to make without having to deal with irrational sexist stereotypes such as the ones reinforced and reproduced in "Sexclamations."

Sylvia Sierra is a junior.

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Entertainment

Radiohead's 'In Rainbows' Shakes up Record Industry

By **STEPHANIE BREIJO**
Staff Writer

Just when record company executives and the eager music community could wait no longer for Radiohead's next album, the quintet without a record label did something challenging, unexpected and completely groundbreaking.

"Hello everyone," wrote lead guitarist Jonny Greenwood. "Well, the new album is finished, and it's coming out in 10 days. We've called it *In Rainbows*. Love from us all. Jonny."

It was as simple as that.

As soon as those four sentences hit Radiohead's official webpage, fans jumped onto the band's message boards. Music publications went ballistic. Music labels and executives panicked. Mass hysteria ensued.

Although the triple-platinum band began working on "*In Rainbows*" in 2005 after fulfilling a six-album recording contract with EMI, the release date was never publicized - or even established - until Greenwood's statement on Oct. 1.

In an official press release, Radiohead's PR company, Nasty Little Man, stated that there would be absolutely no promotion for the new album.

"There will be no advances, promotional copies, digital streams, media sites, etc. of Radiohead's '*In Rainbows*,'" the release said. "Everyone in the world will be getting the music at the same time:

Oct. 10. That includes us. We don't have anything to play anyone in the nine days until the record is available."

But the real coup - the shocking truth of the act - is that Radiohead sold this album digitally, via web link, with tracks free from Digital Rights Management (DRM) coding. For donation. Fans choose the price they're willing to pay for the album, be it \$100 or nothing at all. By submitting only a street address, email address and payment information - if buyers paid anything to begin with - excited fans could pre-order the album and receive a link to the album in the mass email sent yesterday with Radiohead's latest release.

"*In Rainbows*," which consists almost entirely of material that has only been performed live, is an album over two years in the making - the three years between 2004's "*Hail to the Thief*" and "*In Rainbows*" represent the longest between-album gap in the band's history.

Radiohead is also releasing a box set of the album through their website on Dec. 3, which will include a physical copy of the album on compact disc as well as vinyl for the steep U.S. equivalent of around \$82.

Also included in the "discbox" are extra songs not available through the digital download, album art, photographs and lyrics booklets.

An official spokesperson for the band stated that Radiohead is looking at options for a mass CD re-



image courtesy of howshpic.blogspot.com

lease in early 2008, but band members are in no rush to sign to another label.

The big worry in the industry isn't the fact that a major recording act is releasing their highly-anticipated album for whatever the fans want to pay. It isn't the lack of publicity and the effect that might have on an album or the way albums are publicized in the future.

Radiohead seems to be sticking it to the record industry in a big way by releasing an album without a label, without a decided mass physical album release date for stores or even a separate, more-established web browser or outlet like iTunes.

If a triple-platinum act can release an album

without attachment to a record label, what does this mean for an industry already plagued by illegal downloading, legal single-song downloads and streaming audio over the Internet?

"This feels like yet another death knell," emailed an unnamed A&R executive at a major European label to *Time* magazine. "If the best band in the world doesn't want a part of us, I'm not sure what's left for this business."

While Radiohead's "*In Rainbows*" has made a splash in the public eye, it has made a spectacle of the record label-artist hierarchy. And while major artists can pull off a stunt for a statement like this, all that is yet to be determined is who's next.

WMWC Recovers From Major Setbacks

By **MATTHEW BLAKELY**
Staff Writer

Although our school is functioning on one leg without a permanent president or the space of Lee Hall, our radio station, WMWC radio, soldiers on. Despite setbacks acquiring an FCC license, the radio team has found a way to broadcast.

Evan Henry, the radio's front man and technician, explained why the radio hasn't been up and running for the past couple of years: Lee's renovation, lack of support, and the expense of an FCC license.

When Lee Hall's new blue prints arrived and kicked all the organizations operating within the building out, the radio's space was cut into a fraction of what it was; the office, now beside the Eagle's Nest, is about one square foot away from

being considered a closet.

"We had two offices in the attic of Lee Hall with a huge CD library, a vinyl selection, a lounge, a broadcast room, and now it is this," Henry said.

Another problem the radio station faces is a lack of technological support. Sure everyone loves listening to music, but only a small number of people have the actual technological capacity to operate the machinery.

"When I leave there will be no one to support our infrastructure," Henry stated. Therefore without the spine of the school or the muscle of the students, the radio was paralyzed until now.

The radio has now been successfully moved to webcast with an array of DJs and shows. You can listen to the radio easily by logging onto wmwc.umw.edu on campus.

There are about 45 different DJs with two morning personality radio shows lined up every Monday through Thursday from 8-10:00 a.m. These morning shows are designed to help students start their days right and Henry adds, "the shows are kind of like 'Elliot in The Morning' but not nearly as obnoxious."

A regular show has a specific play list of songs that the DJ must play half of his time slot, allowing them to play music of their choice for the other half. In contrast, a specialty show is one that a DJ can either concentrate on a genre of their choice or have a talk show focused on a specific subject.

All of these shows do have one important thing in common: they are limited by the "say nothing you wouldn't want your grandmother to hear" rule - although please keep in mind it is still a col-

lege radio station.

These slots are not hard to get and are still up for grabs, "especially the ones early in the day," Henry noted. If you are interested in becoming a radio personality or DJ all you have to do is get in touch with Henry himself. WMWC staff offers training to all their new DJs.

Despite the major setbacks in the past few years, the radio has persevered. Radio Club is one of the oldest clubs at UMW, and it looks as though it's here to stay.

For a timeslot on WMWC, contact Evan Henry. Henry can be reached on Facebook, or at ehenr8gi@umw.edu.

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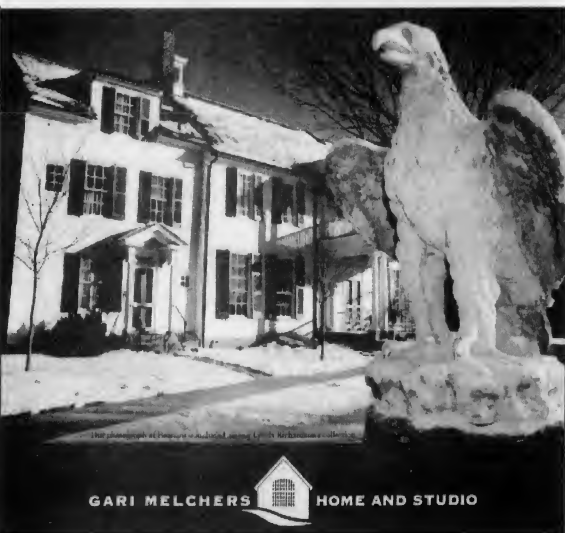
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Entertainment

Plain White T's Visit Mary Wash

By AARON RICHARDSON
Entertainment Editor

Mary Washington students rocked out to the familiar tunes of The Plain White T's at Rocktoberfest on Friday, Oct. 5. The band, which has a number one single with "Hey There Delilah," was brought here by Giant Productions and Class Council.

Despite having to travel long distances to get here, members of the band were happy to be in a university environment. "We have played a bunch of colleges, they're always fun to play, college crowds seem to be laid back and fun. We are likely to have some drinks and have a good time and everything," said PWT guitarist Dave Tirio.

The Plain White T's have been touring pretty much non-stop for the last 5 years. "We've been on the road every day in support of this album since Warped Tour last year," Tirio stated. "Our time off just shrinks away into nothing because we

danceable.

Ill Scarlett may have been too danceable, as one student complained, "How are they going to bring a ska band here and not have somewhere we can skank?" For Dodd Auditorium, Ill Scarlett may well have rocked too hard.

After Ill Scarlett, pop rockers The Hint came on and gave arguably the best performance of the evening. Despite their relative anonymity, they managed to get the crowd into their material, and kept the crowd pumped up by engaging them time and time again.

Instead of just introducing the next song, band members joked about Facebook and their MySpace page while guitars were being tuned, and encouraged people to come see more of their shows.

Bringing The Plain White T's to Mary Washington was no mean feat. Last Friday's Rocktoberfest was the result of many stressful and time-consuming weeks for members of Class Council and Giant.

"The biggest problem was working with our budget because we have never had such an expensive band before," said Devening. Class Council is also responsible for raising another \$5,000 to fully fund Rocktoberfest. Giant Productions paid over \$37,000 to get the bands.

First, attempts to keep the headlining band under wraps until two days before the event were only partly successful. "The point of keeping it a secret was so we could keep the show UMW-only show without having to check I.D.'s," Devening commented. Plans to keep the show a secret were foiled partly by The Hint's MySpace page, and the killer of all secrets, hearsay.

Beyond that, the event had to be moved at the last second from the Goolrick practice fields into Dodd Auditorium because of threatening weather. "With a 40 percent chance of rain on Friday, we had to go inside," Devening said.

The move to Dodd meant that tickets were now necessary, as seating was no longer unlimited. Class Council made 1,200 tickets available to the student body. The tickets were given away for a donation of two non-perishable food items.

In the face of setbacks and stress, Class Council and Giant came through. Devening commented, "Even after having to move the show inside, Rocktoberfest was very much a success."

“Rocktoberfest was very much a success.
- Sophomore Chelsea Devening”

have to tour as much as we can to get our name out there.”

For all of their long hours on the road, though, the PWT still know how to put on a good show. Their set was energetic and engaging and had all of Dodd Auditorium on its feet.

"Despite the concert not being outside, people were pumped and looked like they had a good time. We filled 80 to 90 percent of Dodd," said sophomore Class President Chelsea Devening.

The T's played for roughly an hour, over which time they played all the material that dedicated PWT fans know and love. As was to be expected, they ended the show with "Hey There Delilah," successfully getting in stuck in the heads of every student who came out to the show.

Opening the show was Toronto, Ontario based ska outfit Ill Scarlett. Their set was energetic and



Beth Wilkins / Bulletin

Read another reaction to the show in this week's Staff Editorial.

Double Feature: A Comparison of New and Old 'Beatle Mania' Box-Office Shows

By SERENA EPSTEIN
Staff Writer

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (2007)

The official website for "Across the Universe" proclaims in proper Beatles fashion that "all you need is love." All this film needs is a more cohesive plot, proper character development, and greater depth. Oh, and perhaps a replacement for

Eddie Izzard, who provokes a significantly greater amount of terror than laughter.

Jude, played by Jim Sturgess, leaves his Liverpool home for America in search of his father, who he has never met. Once there, Jude stumbles across rebellious Princeton student Max (Joe Anderson) and his attractive younger sister Lucy (Evan Rachel Wood).

When Max drops out of college they move to New York City and, like nearly all unsuspecting

movie protagonists in films of this nature, are rapidly sucked into Vietnam-era hippie culture. Drugs, antiwar protests, sunglasses, and garishly painted vans abound. Hendrix-style guitar solos also included.

Their sultry landlady is Sadie, a singer with fiery red hair and matching temper. Other housemates include Jolo, a wandering guitarist, and Prudence, a runaway lesbian who first enters through the bathroom window.

The war in Vietnam escalates around Jude and Lucy, who are caught up in the blissful throes of young love. When Max is drafted, the friends are faced with an unpleasant reality that no amount of drugs can quite obliterate.

Despite his vast repertoire of draft-evading schemes, Max is unable to avoid recruitment and leaves for Vietnam. (After Eddie Izzard's performance, perhaps combat is a relief for Max.)

Jude and Lucy's once idyllic relationship begins to suffer as the political atmosphere intensifies, and many of the other characters become disillusioned as problems close in around them. Will Jude and Lucy prove that love really is all you need? Will Sadie stay sexy? And will Jolo finally get back to where he once belonged?

Generic romance plot #3 provides the main structure for this film, supplemented by several convoluted, but nevertheless entertaining subplots. Plot twists in "Across the Universe" are more like plot corkscrews, spiraling madly but never really changing direction from the usual clichéd predictability.

This film is driven by our culture's perception of the 1960's, and is therefore prone to occasional inaccuracy and oversimplification.

Rarely deviating from the expected, Jude and Lucy's romance also progresses in the usual formulaic way. There's a shy initial meeting, followed by the gradual falling in love, perfect relationship, and (presumably) great sex. Toss in some conflict contrived simply to provide the conclusion with increased emotional impact, and you've got their relationship.

While it has every necessary structural element, this romance is sometimes hard to buy. Despite the movie's character-driven plot, not enough time is spent on character development, and for a romantic film, it doesn't seem to have much focus on the intricacies of relationships essential to the plot. More effort seems to have been spent on presenta-

tion rather than depth, for the most part.

An especially frightening sequence, both in terms of its style and placement, is one in which Eddie Izzard sings, or rather, talks "Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite" with an assortment of trippy, masked extras revolving in the background. However, the scene's main problem lies not in its absurdity but in Izzard's irritating rendition, which probably left Lennon rolling in his grave.

Although "Across the Universe" is inconsistent, there are a few brilliant scenes that make it worthwhile. Expect oversimplification and a manufactured plot, but also dazzling cinematography and passionate performances.

The film is stylistically unique, emotionally charged, and has excellent pacing. Think ear/eye candy with a little extra kick. And Beatles fans, give the music a chance. It's not quite bad enough to make you cry.

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT (1964)

Ready for some real Beatles? Billed as "the greatest rock and roll comedy adventure," "A Hard Day's Night" is fun, hilarious, weird, and generally more fun than a barrel of monkeys. After all, monkeys bite. DVDs generally don't.

The minimized risk of rabies alone makes it worth your while to run out and rent/buy/legally download this classic movie. Catch George, John, Ringo and Paul—in order of personal preference—frolicking onscreen and, of course, enjoy the fab four singing their own songs beautifully.

Shenanigans! Screaming fangirls! Dirty old men! Catchy music! Trouble with law enforcement officials! Excessive use of exclamation marks! This movie has it all.

Catch "A Hard Day's Night" at tonight's Classic Film Club meeting in Combs 139 at 10:00pm.



image courtesy of amazon.com

Features

Journalists Predict Political Picks

By ANNIE KINNIBURGH
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington is only 55 miles from Washington, D.C. and Capitol Hill, but students find themselves relatively isolated from the political scene of the nation's capital.

On Oct. 2, however, students seeking politics needed look no further than Dodd Auditorium, where the Fredericksburg Forum lecture series hosted political analysts Steve and Cokie Roberts.

The Robertses discussed the workings of the current Congress and the complexities of the 2008 presidential elections.

The husband and wife team have analyzed politics in many different fields over the years, contributing to ABC News, CNN, National Public Radio and the ABC radio network, winning many awards for their achievements in journalism. In addition to their own careers, they co-write a nationally syndicated newspaper column that focuses on political issues.

Board of Visitors Rector J. William Poole introduced the Robertses.

"They have a very engaging view of politics," he said, "And manage to find one voice in their newspaper columns. It is an honor to include them as part of our centennial celebration."

Steve Roberts noted a problematic aspect of the current Congress.

"There are such poisonous relationships on Capitol Hill," he said. "The lack of trust is palpable."

The lack of willingness to reach out, he said, has hampered the effectiveness of Congress and resulted in an "abysmal" record of passed bills.

According to the Robertses, this sharp political divide will have an impact on next year's presidential election, with conflict between parties and within them. Already these conflicts are manifesting themselves among the field of candidates.

Though November 2008 may seem far away, candidates have been preparing for months, raising funds and support for their campaigns.

The past few years and current political climate, however, have resulted in a strong bias against the Republican Party.

"There are days when I look at the Republican field and think none of them can win the nomination," Steve Roberts said. "The Republi-



Courtesy of Karen Pearlman

Political analysts Cokie and Steve Roberts spoke at UMW last week. The husband and wife team discussed the presidential candidates for 2008.

cans are very unhappy with their candidate choices."

This has even led to conservatives contemplating the formation of a third party, he noted.

"One of the Republican candidates is going to have to win the nomination," Steve Roberts said, "But whoever wins will be an enormous underdog."

Cokie Roberts specifically singled out two candidates as the front-runners in the election.

"The real competition in this election as of now is between Hilary Clinton and Barack Obama," Cokie Roberts said.

Both candidates have raised millions of dollars in funds and have strong support among voters, but also have weaknesses that could impede their campaigns.

"It's hard to be the fresh new face for two years," Cokie Roberts said, noting that despite

Obama's popularity, his campaign seems to have stalled, with some holding his lack of experience in Congress against him.

For Hilary Clinton, the problem is not too little time spent in politics, but too much.

"People are uncomfortable with the fact that there has been a Bush or a Clinton on the ballot since 1980," Cokie Roberts said. "It's starting to feel like a monarchy and that could hurt her chances."

Cokie Roberts also touched on a popular question: Is America really ready to elect either a woman or a black man president?

"I do think the country is ready for a woman president. I think the question is whether the country is ready for this woman president," she said. "As for Obama, I think there's a strong sense that as interesting as he is, he's not ready yet."

Freshman Amanda Heathcock was happy to see some political discussion on the UMW campus. As a member of the club Students for Obama, Heathcock wishes these events were more frequent.

"It seems like people don't get involved on campus so much, but go off-campus if they're interested in an issue," Heathcock said. She noted a limited selection of political clubs on campus and a small number of attendees at Students for Obama meetings, which support Democratic candidate Barack Obama for president in the upcoming election.

Both the Robertses emphasized that American voters are not oblivious to the complexities of the upcoming election.

"There is a tremendous interest in this campaign," Steve Roberts said. "Americans are interested...they're excited about this race."

Professor Guides Students in Ghana

By KATHRYN SAUNDERS
Staff Writer

When UMW education professor Dale Wright arrived in the West African nation of Ghana for a teaching conference, she immediately noticed how in need the primary schools were of basic supplies.

Students used bundles of sticks to practice division and teachers painted carbon from used batteries on the walls in place of a chalkboard.

Students at another school gathered rocks daily to pile outside, in case their building needed further construction.

"[It] was probably the most profound lesson I've watched in terms of how teachers make use

of what they have," said Wright, Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Mary Washington.

Wright, along with Suzanne Houff and Kavatus Newell, both Associate Professors of Education, traveled to Winneba, Ghana for two weeks last June to attend a teaching conference.

The week-long conference, organized through the Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA), provided workshops for students from the University of Education in Ghana. Houff, Wright and Newell trained the university students on effective teaching techniques. The UMW professors also donated teaching supplies and traveled to individual schools to see their lessons put to work in classrooms.

Houff and Wright were amazed with the generosity they received at each school despite the country's poverty.

"The people are just wonderful. They are always willing to give of their time, of themselves," Wright said. "Every school felt somehow compelled to give us a gift in return."

The politeness and eagerness of students struck Wright. She described how students as young as three stood politely and remained standing when adults entered the room and

never complained about difficult work or limited supplies.

"The children were always simply respectful...they paid attention," she said. "They were always on task."

In Ghana, where only 54 percent of adults are considered literate and uniforms are required for even the poorest students, school is considered a privilege.

"Children understand that if they are in school, their families are making a very big sacrifice for them to be there," Wright said.

The group also traveled to historic sites, the rainforest and the local markets.

"I was absolutely thrilled to be there," Wright said. "The vastness of this country...it was incredible."

The trip inspired Houff and Wright to create a program for Education students from Mary Washington to travel to Ghana for two weeks.

While the program is still in discussion, Houff said it is intended to allow students from both the Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses to receive course credit.

"It is an experience that everyone needs to take part of," Houff said.



Courtesy of Suzanne Houff

UMW education professor Dale Wright, Comfort Boison of the University of Education in Winneba, and education professors Suzanne Houff and Kavatus Newell of UMW's College of Graduate and Professional Studies in a classroom in Ghana.

Thumbs Up...Thumbs Down...



30 Rock



Midterms



Cake



The green-eyed monster

Professor Publishes Piece on Plato

By MADALYN CROWELL
Staff Writer

After 10 years of work, University of Mary Washington professor David Ambuel has published his translation and commentary on one of Plato's most well-known works of philosophy and rhetoric. Ambuel's book is entitled "Image and Paradigm in Plato's 'Sophist.'"

Ambuel recalls when he was working on the first draft of the piece to serve as his dissertation. He says he was anxious to complete the work before his pregnant wife gave birth to their son. Soon, a full-fledged competition emerged to see which would be born first: Ambuel's dissertation or his son.

"I didn't quite make it," Ambuel said. "My son beat me by a few months."

Though he was upset that his dissertation was not completed before his son's birth, Ambuel persevered and finally published his thoughts on Plato this past summer.

Ambuel, who began teaching at UMW in 1992, developed an immediate interest in Plato's theories after his very first philosophy class. He quickly became frustrated with the predominant interpretations of Plato's "Sophist," however.

Many of these interpretations claimed that Plato neglected and abandoned several of his theories. They also asserted that the "Sophist" is merely a dialogue, which demonstrates Plato's loss of interest in attempting to find answers to his original questions concerning the metaphysical.

Ambuel saw serious flaw in these narrow interpretations. He

viewed these theories as a projection of current philosophical theories onto an ancient philosophy. Inspired to present an alternative viewpoint, Ambuel began working on his own unique interpretation of the dialogue.



Great Aspirations

In his book, Ambuel focuses on defining the character of the sophist in ancient Greece, which is a prominent topic in most of Plato's works.

Plato believed that a sophist was one who had been trained in persuasion and had no regard for the truth, an idea that he explored through his philosophy.

Ambuel admitted that writing his commentary was both demanding and time-consuming. Fortunately, however, his teaching schedule allowed him the free time he needed to conduct his research.

In addition to publishing his book on Plato, Ambuel co-wrote a book entitled "Philosophy, Religion and the Question of Intolerance" with Professor Mehdi Aminrazavi, a fellow member of the philosophy department. Ambuel has also written numerous published articles on the topics of philosophy and religion.

Though Ambuel remains busy with his writings and professorship, he plans to continue writing.

Among his current projects is an analysis of Plato's "Theaetetus," which was written as a discussion that takes place the day before the "Sophist," a later dialogue regarding Plato's questions concerning knowledge.

"I'm always writing," Ambuel said. "I'm not stopping any time soon."



Photo courtesy of www.buy.com

Alum Reminisces About Former Roomie

By WILL COLLINS
Guest Writer

The following column was written in response to Kevin Kendall's "Student Shaves for Hunger Crave" (The Bulletin, Oct. 4, 2007).

It has come to my attention that Kevin Kendall, my old colleague and former roommate, viciously slandered my character in a recent Bulletin editorial. To be fair, vicious slander may be a bit of an exaggeration.

For those of you who missed reading about the incident in question, it involved an impromptu haircut, a late night trip to Central Park and a soft pretzel. Anyone who thinks a 2 a.m. trip to Wawa isn't worth a shaved head is undeserving of a degree from this august institution.

I'm not really sure why the Bulletin printed Kevin's article. One might reasonably suggest that there are other, more pressing issues facing our nation's youth—the war, health care reform, season two of "I Love New York."

But for me, Kevin's column elicited a wave of post-graduate nostalgia. Kevin and I were roommates for three enjoyable, frustrating years. To be perfectly honest, we never had a lot in common. I traveled with the debate team and Kevin played lacrosse. He brought the television, the mini-fridge and the Xbox to our dormroom, while I brought...my winning personality.

He sexiled me roughly 100 times for every instance I kicked him out—to masturbate. We

couldn't even agree on music. I had just gotten over an unhealthy obsession with Saves the Day and was slowly but inexorably drifting towards indie hipsterdom, while Kevin preferred John Mayer, Taking Back Sunday and Mannie Fresh.

We never became best friends, but we did manage to survive dorm living for three long years.

We also developed some odd habits. For example, singing along to Ruben Studdard's forgotten classic "Sorry 2004" on repeat at the top of our lungs.

We also had each others' backs. When I projectile vomited all over our bathroom for the first time, Kevin was considerate enough to emerge from his booze-induced coma and shout, "Dude, don't forget to clean out the sink when you're done."

Now that I'm out in the real world, I sometimes reminisce about our halcyon days in the dorms. I'm sure some of it is a product of hindsight bias. I try not to dwell on the desperate all-nighters, arguments over the remote control and trips to Seacobeck.

But for the most part, I value the time I spent with Kevin in extremely close quarters. He helped get me through innumerable hangovers, a closet addiction to Internet poker, and an unfortunate tendency to never take out the trash.

I'll leave you with one thought: Enjoy college while it lasts. It needn't be the last hurrah before a life of uninterrupted drudgery, but it is a unique experience worth savoring—much like a soft pretzel at 2 a.m. on a school night.



the eagle flies at midnight

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID...

By STEVEN BRIEL
Guest Writer

As I stare out across the vast empty space known as my social life, I can't help but notice that all my potential love interests fit neatly into five music-oriented clichés.

There's the hippie chick, who sports a T-shirt featuring a jam band so down to earth they travel around in SUVs and refuse to wear deodorant because of all those unnatural chemicals.

Then there's the goth chick with her kohl-rimmed eyes and metal T-shirt from a band with the "greatest" technical guitar player in the world, which usually means the band sucks. Sleep tight with your Trey Azagthoth teddy bear—and try not to get any eyeliner on him.

The hipster chick is too cool for any music I've ever heard of. She probably liked Death Cab for Cutie only before they were played on the O.C. and The Shins only prior to "Garden State." Fiast is on the way out for this indie princess thanks to the iPod commercial.

The honest girl is not wholly unlike her peers. She likes whatever is currently playing on the radio—but she's not afraid to admit it. I appreciate you enjoying music without pretense, but please stop singing the lyrics incorrectly.

Last but not least, there's the honkey tonk woman, who wears a cowboy hat 24/7 and sings along to every worthless country song. I get it. You're proud of losing a war over the enslavement of an entire race, you're sad your dog died, and the memories you've made in your pickup truck will never fade, just like your favorite pair of blue jeans.

But then it hits me. And then it hits

me, baby, one more time. Despite their ultimate music divisions, if they were born after 1985, these musical maidens are all unified by five names: Nick, Howie, Brian, A.J. and Kevin. I could go even further and say Justin, Chris, JC, Joey and Lance.

Enjoy what ever elitist or angry music you listen to now, but you can't erase the Backstreet Boys and N'Sync from your past. And I never want to here you say, "I want it that way."

Bye, bye, bye.



Photo courtesy of allposters.com

Career Day

EMPLOYERS ATTENDING*
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Thursday, October 25, 2007
11 a.m. - 3 p.m., UMW Great Hall

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Edward Jones
EG&G Technical Services
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Fairfax County Police Department
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FBI - Finance Division
GEICO
Geologics Corporation
JET Program
Keiter, Stephens, Hurst, Gary & Stephens, PC
National Park Service
National Science Foundation - OIG
NAVSEA Warfare Centers
PBGH (Certified Public Accountants)
Peace Corps
PPD (Pharmaceutical Product Development, Inc.)
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Questions? Call the Office of Career Services
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Classifieds

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News

Homecoming



Schedule of Events

Wednesday, Oct. 17
SGA Scavenger Hunt
6-8 p.m. starting in
Great Hall

Drive-in Movie
9-midnight

Thursday, Oct. 18
SGA moonbounce
and games play day
4-6 Ball Circle

Bonfire & Pep Rally



Jefferson Square 8-
10:30 p.m.

Friday Oct. 19

Parade down Cam-
pus Walk 4-7 p.m.

12th Annual Athletic
Hall of Fame Banquet
Seaco. 7-midnight

Homecoming Dance



From 9 -midnight in
Great Hall.

Saturday, Oct. 20

It's Game Day
1:00 p.m. - Women's
Soccer vs. Chowan
College

1:00 p.m. - Women's
Field Hockey vs. Sal-
isbury University

3:30 p.m. - Men's
Soccer vs. York Col-
lege of Pennsylvania

Men's and Women's
Rugby Teams vs.
Alumni, times TBA

Concert on Rugby
Fields at 7:30 p.m.
followed by SGA
Fireworks at 8 p.m.

Luxury Homes Left Empty

By JOEY MERKEL
Assistant Sports Editor

The two luxury homes the University of Mary Washington bought last school year for a combined \$3.2 million have been sitting empty since January, when the university acquired them.

School officials have allocated \$350,000 to renovate the houses but say it will still be at least another three months before anybody moves in.

And they are still undecided about who—or what offices—will be housed there.

"Final decisions have not been made yet," said Rosemary Barra, vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the faculty. "A lot of possibilities are being explored and I hope that in a few weeks we will have the details worked out."

According to Rick Pearce, associate vice president for Business and Finance, the University hopes to have faculty or staff offices in the houses by January.

The architecture firm Boynton and Rothschild is under contract with the University to determine what needs to be done to the houses to bring them up to the state code. School officials cannot yet say when they will begin the actual renovations.

"Things are still in the planning phase," said Pearce. According to Pearce, officials do know that both houses will need to have sprinkler systems installed, and the houses will also have to be handicapped accessible.

"I taught at two other universities before I came here to UMW and I never taught in the same building that my office was located until I came here," he said. "So in some sense I don't think the houses on College Avenue are incon-

venient."

The \$2.1 million house at 1201 William St. came with a wine cellar, sauna and elevator, all of which Pearce said will likely remain.

"There have been no plans made at this time to dismantle or remove anything that does not have to do with the compliance issues," he said.

According to school officials, among the factors the University will consider in determining what offices move into the houses are the size of a department and the amount of necessary equipment.

According to Pearce, it is unlikely that any of the sciences would be moved into the houses because of their equipment needs, and large departments such as English, Linguistics, and Speech are also unlikely to move because neither house could accommodate all the department faculty.

Pearce offered Mathematics as an example of a department that might be a viable option to move into one of the houses, because Math has relatively few faculty members and requires relatively little lab space.

Though the houses could accommodate offices, faculty who move there will likely have to teach their classes in other buildings, but Math Professor Keith Mellinger said he did not see that as a problem.

"I taught at two other universities before I came here to UMW and I never taught in the same building that my office was located until I came here," he said. "So in some sense I don't think the houses on College Avenue are incon-



Beth Wilkins/Bullet

venient."

Mellinger said he was concerned that faculty offices in the houses would be less convenient for students, which could potentially cut down on the number of students who seek out their professors during office hours.

UMW junior Carla Meyerhoeffer shares the same concern.

"It would be cool to go at first, but I don't think I would continually go," she said. "It's more convenient to go right after class to their office since it's in the same building."

More Space for the Displaced

◀ OFFICES, page 1

Once the Lee Hall renovations are finished, a number of the offices now at Centre Court will move back onto campus; at that time, offices affected by other renovation projects will be moved off campus to Centre Court.

One of the new offices set to move into Centre Court by mid-October is Design Services, currently housed in the basement of Seacobeck.

"Design Services is a large operation and they need a fair amount of space to lay things out," said Pearce. "Also, the space that Information Technology has [currently occupied in Centre Court] will be expanded."

The space in Seacobeck currently used by Design Services may be converted into additional space for the Office of Student Activities and Community Service, which currently occupies much of the Seacobeck basement.

"OSACS would like some additional space. They may decide to use the old Design Services space," said Pearce. "Nothing has been determined yet."

"We have a new staff person—a new position—and the person is sharing an office with a student group," said Student Activities Director Joe Mollo. "There's been talk [of additional space] but that's it. No decisions are even close to being made."



Teresa Mannix, director of News and Public Information, whose office is already located in Centre Court, is pleased with her location.

"I think it's great. Everything is new. I'm lucky to be over here," she said. "It makes it enjoyable to be here every day."

With the upcoming changes, approximately 40 people will be working in Centre Court.

The original office at Centre Court, nearly empty during working hours on a recent Monday afternoon. The School signed a five-year lease for an additional 2,400 Sq. ft. of office space to house displaced employees.

No Staff Meeting This Sunday, Oct. 14



Enjoy Your Fall Break

If you are interested in writing for the Bullet contact us at newsxcrew@gmail.com



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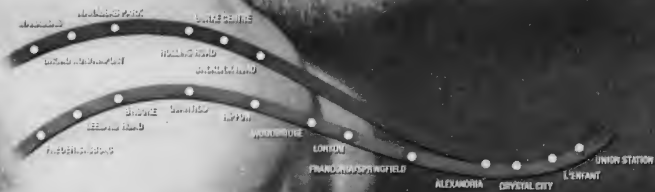
WHO'S STILL DRIVING TO WORK? #9

THE DISINTERESTED SOPHOMORE

Ho hum. It's another endless day of shuffling congressional reports and press releases. Has our boy lost his spark somewhere in the halls of Congress or has it just been dowsed by the hours he spends behind the wheel inching his way in and out of the city on 95 every day? He could be riding the VRE, laptop and cell phone at hand, charging up Capitol Hill refreshed and renewed, ready to change the world once again.



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Sports

Riders Trot Into First Place Win

By NICHOLAS JACOBS
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington riding team kicked off the 2007-2008 season on Saturday, earning a first place ribbon in the Mount St. Mary's College Show.

The Eagles' 37 point win ranked them first in the region over rival schools Goucher College, who placed second with 32 points, and George Mason University, who placed third with 31 points.

Seniors Erin Richardson and Claudia Black both had impressive showings. Richardson placed first in open fences and Black placed first in novice flat, earning enough points this show to move up to the intermediate class.

Other top finishers included junior Jessica Van Brocklin, placing first in open flat; freshman Shannon Brown, placing first in advanced walk-trot-canter; freshman Mary Ryan Richardson, placing first in novice fences; sophomore Rebecca L'Heureaux, placing first in intermediate flat; and sophomore John Smith, placing second in beginning walk-trot-canter.

Although the Eagle's opening show was hosted by Mount St. Mary's, the show was held at Goucher College. Saturday marks the first time Mary Washington has defeated Goucher on their grounds since 2004.

The Eagles, who are coming off an impressive finish to last year's season when they sent four riders to Zone Championships and a team to the National Championships, are optimistic about their chances this season.

Brown, who rode for her first team with Mary Washington this show, is hopeful that UMW will place first in the region.

"We work hard in practices," she said. "Everything we do is geared toward what we might be asked to do in one of our classes, and a lot of times we will have to pretend like we are actually at a show. I know that we had a lot of people try out

this year, and they were all good riders, so coming in we had a very strong team."

Black also agreed that the newcomers will be beneficial.

"One of the things that I think will work out for us this year is that we have a lot of new faces on the team this year," she said. "We have strong riders at every level, so we are maximizing our chances of earning points at shows."

Van Brocklin, who competed at the Zones Championship Horse Show last year, and was on UMW's Nationals team, feels that the team's closeness was a big factor in their win.

"Well I personally love the team factor of it because I have been horse showing individually since I was 4 years old," she said. "The fact that it's individual as well as a team is supportive and it changes the sport all together."

"It's great everyone is there cheering each other on and bonding as a team, not individually competing against each other."

Although UMW's riding season has just begun, junior Tiffany Batterton is already looking ahead to the rest of the year.

"I think this win gave us a great start to the season," she said. "But we know we can't win the region based on this one show, so we're going to keep working hard to step it up since we know the other teams will be doing the same in an attempt to catch us."

Those teams will have to run fast, as the Eagles already have an upper-hand with coach Beth Boteler on their side.

Van Brocklin is one of Boteler's biggest fans.

"Beth's an awesome coach," Van Brocklin said. "She's always positive, she doesn't get down on us and she always tries to help us fix what we messed up or how to improve."

The Eagles will look for win number two when compete in the Goucher College Horse Show Oct. 27.



Courtesy Lauren Catherine

Senior Open Rider Lauren Campbell performs at the Mount St. Mary's riding show Oct. 6 in Towson, Md. The Eagles finished first to kick off their season.

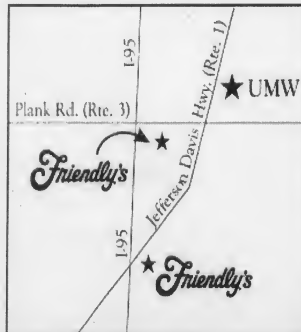
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Courtesy Daniel Smith

Members of the men's rowing team prepare for their next race at the Occoquan Challenge Oct. 7. The Eagles had several first place finishes in Sunday's meet.

Eagle Rowers Make First Waves

By NICK NELSON
Assistant Sports Editor

When the University of Mary Washington crew team took to the water Oct. 7, the season was beginning with a new sense of purpose.

The team had avoided a demotion from varsity status and with 26 combined freshmen between the men's and women's teams, a squad with less fortitude would have struggled to find an identity.

The Eagles were also practicing on new waters this year at Hope Springs Marina on Aquia Creek, located less than 20 minutes from UMW.

Sophomore men's captain Daniel Smith is pleased with the venue so far.

"It's working really well," he said. "It's about the same distance away as Lake of the Woods. There has been more boat traffic than the last location, but it hasn't been a problem so far."

Sunday's Occoquan Challenge showed a team who looked comfortable in their new home,

as the women's varsity eight finished in second, their varsity four finished third, and the men's varsity four finished 13th out of 20.

The women's eight finished with a time of 18:10.39, the women's four finished at 21:40, and the men's four finished their event with a time of 17:44.33.

Junior women's captain Julie Milam was pleased with her team's performance on Sunday.

"We have way more focus this year," she said. "A lot of girls are coming in with experience from other sports, so they are definitely determined. A lot of our freshmen are already breaking records on the 20 minute tests, so we are all really excited."

Smith was equally optimistic about what he has seen from the men's team.

"I think we're doing really well, all things considered," he said. "This was only the fifth time our boat had rowed together as a team, and it seems like every time we get out there, it seems like it's

our best outing, so we are constantly improving. We are pretty well on pace."

Head coach Phil Schmehl had nothing but good things to say about the entire roster.

"It was very inspiring to watch these kids persevere through all the adversity," he said. "They've really done an amazing job, and made great changes with their fitness. We're doing a great job of setting goals and figuring out exactly what we need to do to get our speed up for the spring season."

Schmehl added that the support from the school has been just as helpful.

"We are so thankful for all of the positive press, be it from the school, the local papers, or DC news stations, it has been such a huge help to know that we have that support," he said.



Courtesy Clint Offen

It was very inspiring to watch these kids persevere through all the adversity.

- Head Coach Phil Schmehl

The team will look to carry this optimism over to the Occoquan Chase Regatta on Oct. 14 in Occoquan, Va.

UMW Takes Swing At Championship

Tennis Players Head To Alabama For Tourney

By JOEY MERKEL
Assistant Sports Editor

For three University of Mary Washington tennis players, the start of Fall Break means sweet home Alabama.

Juniors Randy Loden, Becky Morse-Karzen and Stephanie Kurti will be representing the blue and grey when they compete in the ITA Small College National Championships in Mobile, Ala. this weekend.

Kurti could barely believe that she had been chosen to compete in the Nationals competition.

"When my coach called me last week he said, 'You may need to sit down for this,' and I was nervous it was bad news, and then when he told me Becky and I were going to Alabama as the at-large selection I was ecstatic," she said. "I almost cried and I was jumping up and down screaming."

Loden won his spot into the ITA championships after winning his ITA Southeast Regional singles competition Oct. 1.

Loden defeated Methodist University tennis player Chris Fletcher 1-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5), winning the match when Fletcher back-handed a ball into the net.

"It was a pretty cool feeling knowing I had won," Loden said. "I felt like it was a pretty big accomplishment."

Loden begins match play at the National tournament Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m., when he will face off against Mikey Lim, a student of Claremont-Mudd Scripps in California.

Morse-Karzen and Kurti were eliminated in doubles competition in the ITA regional tournament but were able to latch on to an at-large bid to

Nationals, thanks in part to finishing the 2006-2007 season ranked No. 12 in the country.

Morse-Karzen said that her and Kurti have been giving everything they have in practices this past week, and have even found time to play outside of their typical practice hours.

Women's head coach Patrick Catullo said this is the first time he has sent UMW players to such a nationally recognized tournament.

He will work with Morse-Karzen and Kurti on their strategies once they get to Alabama and learn more about their opponents.

In the meantime he is very proud of the two tennis players.

"It always feels good to be in a premier tournament," he said. "I think it sends a message that our program is heading in the right direction."

Morse-Karzen and Kurti face off in their first match against Marissa Lin and Vindya Dayananda of the University of Chicago, the city where the two Eagles are originally from.

The match is set to begin on Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m.

If either Loden or Kurti and Morse-Karzen win their first matches they will move on to the semifinals of the competition later on Thursday. If they lose they will still be eligible to play but would have to settle for fifth to eighth place depending on how they play.

Should the ball bounce in UMW's favor, the tennis teammates would go on to play in the championship game on Friday.

Loden would play at 8:30 a.m. with Kurti and Morse-Karzen at 4:30 p.m.

The players left yesterday for the tournament and a dinner banquet which all competitors attend, and then it's on to match play today.



Beth Wilkins/Bullet

Juniors Becky Morse-Karzen, Randy Loden and Stephanie Kurti are getting ready for the ITA Small College Championships in Mobile, Alabama.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 11- Men's soccer vs.
Gallaudet, 4 p.m.
Field hockey vs. Hood, 4 p.m.



Athlete of the Week

Sophomore volleyball player Anne Lutkenhaus was named last week's CAC player of the week.